

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LISBON 04964 272000Z

64

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 104430

O R 271832Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3980

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

S E C R E T LISBON 4964

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS SECRETARY'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PO

SUBJ: PORTUGUESE POLITICAL CRISIS AND ALLIED DEMARCHES

REF: (A) STATE 202520 (B) BONN 13891

SUMMARY: ON AUG 27, GERMAN CHARGE MADE DEMARCHE TO COSTA GOMES ON PRESENT POLITICAL CRISIS. PRESIDENT REPLIED BY SAYING PORTUGAL WOULD OPT FOR PLURALISTIC DEMOCRACY AND IMPLIED THAT DAYS OF PRESENT GOVERNMENT WERE NUMBERED. WE HAVE IMPRESSION THAT GERMAN DEMARCHE WAS AT BEST HALF-HEARTED. I HAVE CONFORMED TODAY FROM SECOND SOURCE EXTREMELY CLOSE TO PRESIDENT THAT STRONG DEMARCHES ARE EFFECTIVE IN MAKING PRESIDENT MOVE. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO EMPHASIZE THIS POINT TO OUR EUROPEAN ALLIES. END SUMMARY

1. GERMAN CHARGE SAW PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES ON AUG 27. MEETING HAD BEEN PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED IN CONNECTION WITH A PROPOSED SEPTEMBER VISIT TO PORTUGAL BY GERMAN DEFENSE MINISTER. CHARGE, SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 LISBON 04964 272000Z

UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM BONN, USED OCCASION TO MAKE DEMARCHE

REQUESTED IN REF B. CHARGE HAD BEEN TOLD BY BONN TO EXPRESS "WORRIED CONCERN" ON PART OF HIMSELF, HIS GOVERNMENT, AND HIS COLLEAGUES.

2. COSTA GOMES REPLIED BY NOTING THAT THERE WERE THREE GROUPS WITHIN THE MILITARY: A SMALL LEFT LED BY THE PRIME MINISTER, THE LARGE CENTRIST AND "PROGRESSIVE" GROUP LED BY ANTUNES, AND THE APOLITICAL PROFESSIONAL OFFICERS. COSTA GOMES SAID THAT CONFLICT AMONG THESE GROUPS WAS NOW ON THE VERGE OF "CLARIFICATION." GERMAN CHARGE ASKED IF THAT MEANT TOWARDS A PLURALISTIC DEMOCRACY. PRESIDENT SAID "YES" BUT IN SOCIALIST PATTERN DETERMINED BY PORTUGAL'S HISTORY AND TRADITIONS. HE THEN ADDED THAT THE POLITICAL PARTIES IN PORTUGAL HAD BEEN THINKING TOO MUCH OF THEIR OWN AMBITIONS.

3. WHEN QUERIED ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE GOVERNMENT, THE PRESIDENT REPLIED THAT HIS SPEECH AT INVESTITURE OF SECRETARIES OF STATE LAST WEEK STILL APPLIED. (PRESIDENT STATED IN THAT SPEECH THAT DAYS OF THE GOVERNMENT WERE NUMBERED.)

4. COMMENT: POLCOUNS CAME AWAY FROM CONVERSATION WITH GERMAN CHARGE WITH DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT CHARGE'S DEMARCHE TO COSTA GOMES HAD AT BEST BEEN HALFHEARTED. CHARGE DID NOT SEEM TO HAVE RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS TO MAKE STRONG PRESENTATION, AND CHARGE PERSONALLY HAD DOUBTS ABOUT UTILITY OF DEMARCHE. HE OPINED THAT ALLIED DEMARCHES AFTER MAR 11 HAD NOT REALLY BEEN VERY USEFUL.

5. I HAVE CONFIRMED TODAY FROM SECOND SOURCE EXTREMELY CLOSE TO PRESIDENT THAT STRONG DEMARCHES ARE EFFECTIVE IN MAKING PRESIDENT MOVE. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO EMPHASIZE THIS POINT TO OUR EUROPEAN ALLIES.
CARLUCCI

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT REFORM, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LISBON04964
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750297-0118
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750814/aaaaaltz.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 STATE 202520, 75 BONN 13891
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <28 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PORTUGUESE POLITICAL CRISIS AND ALLIED DEMARCHES
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PO, GE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006